

Appl. No. 10/786,143
Amdt. Dated October 20, 2006
Reply to Office Action of July 20, 2006

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicant has attached two replacement sheets of drawings including revised Figures 1 and 2.

These sheets replace the original sheets which included Figures 1 and 2, respectively. In the revised Figures 1 and 2, the designation "PRIOR ART" has been added.

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REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the non-final Office Action mailed July 20, 2006. Reexamination and reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully solicited.

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application, with Claims 1, 11, 15, 20, and 22 being the independent claims. Claims 3-7 and 10-21 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner. Claims 1 and 22 have been amended. No new matter is believed to have been added.

Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings because Figures 1 and 2 should be designated by a legend such as "Prior Art" because only that which is old is illustrated.

Applicant has submitted replacement sheets of drawings including a revised Figures 1 and 2, in which the designation "PRIOR ART" has been added.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Michal.

Claims 1 and 22 have been amended to include the IFOG being configured such that a portion of light from the light source enters the wave division multiplexer/detector assembly without impinging upon the narrowband FBG. Specifically, Claims 1 and 22 include the limitation "a narrowband fiber Bragg grating (FBG) not associated directly with the light source and in communication with the light source and to compensate for errors in the wavelength division multiplexer/detector assembly and such that at least a portion of light from the light source enters the wave division multiplexer/detector assembly without impinging upon the narrowband FBG."

Michal does not teach or suggest the use of an IFOG being configured such that a portion of light from the light source enters the wave division multiplexer/detector assembly without impinging upon the narrowband FBG. Michal teaches a system and method for providing scale factor stabilization of a broadband light source used in fiber optic gyroscopes (Abstract). As shown in Figure 4, a scale factor stabilization system 200 for a broadband light source 202 and a

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fiber optic rotation sensor 204 includes a primary bandpass filter 206 and a spectral monitor array 224 (column 4, lines 66-67). The primary bandpass filter 206 attenuates all wavelengths of light outside the bandpass of the primary bandpass filter 206, which narrows the spectral width of the light transmitted to the fiber optic gyroscope 204 (column 5, lines 6-9). Within the spectral monitor array 224, an array of secondary bandpass filters 230 are each connected to a respective fiber element 228 (column 6, lines 13-16). As is evident from the layout of the system shown in Figure 4, all of the light that is emanated from the broadband light source 202 passes through the primary bandpass filter 206, as well as one of the secondary bandpass filters 230, before entering the spectral monitor array 224. Specifically, Michal does not teach or suggest the use of an IFOG being configured such that a portion of light from the light source enters the wave division multiplexer/detector assembly without impinging upon the narrowband FBG.

Therefore, Claims 1 and 22 are patentable over Michal because Claims 1 and 22 include limitations that are not taught or suggested by Michal.

Claim 2 is dependent on Claim 1 and should be allowable for at least the same reasons as Claim 1 stated above.

Applicant, accordingly, respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections Claims 1, 2, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Michal.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant has noted, with appreciation, that the Examiner has indicated that Claims 8 and 9 would be allowable if written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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Conclusion

Based on the above, independent Claims 1 and 22 are patentable over the citations of record. The dependent claims are also deemed patentable for the reasons given above with respect to the independent claims and because each recite features which are patentable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully solicited.

The other art of record is also not understood to disclose or suggest the inventive concept of the present invention as defined by the claims.

Hence, Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections set forth in the above-noted Office action, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

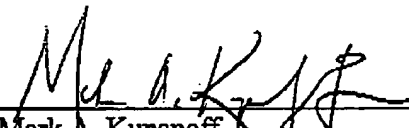
If for some reason Applicant has not paid a sufficient fee for this response, please consider this as authorization to charge Ingrassia, Fisher & Lorenz, Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

INGRASSIA FISHER & LORENZ

Dated: October 20, 2006

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